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Message Text

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DRAFTED BY ARA/CAR:DCNORTON:BK
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S/S- JLHOGANSON
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O 210146Z APR 76
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 087613

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, GY, US, CU, XA

SUBJECT: GUYANA-CUBA: AMBASSADOR'S MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER WILLS

REF: (A) GEORGETOWN 670, (B) GEORGETOWN 681, (C) GEORGETOWN 693, (D) GEORGETOWN 694

1. EMBASSY'S REPORTING OF DISPATCH OF NUMBER OF GUYANESE TROOPS TO CUBA FOR MILITARY TRAINING AND POSSIBLE DEPLOYMENT TO MOZAMBIQUE HAS BEEN NOTED. WE BELIEVE YOU SHOULD SEEK EARLY OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH BURNHAM AND/OR FOREIGN MINISTER WILLS TO REQUEST CLARIFICATION AND, IF NECESSARY, EXPRESS OUR GRAVE CONCERN. YOU MIGHT PEG YOUR REMARKS TO WILLS' RECENT ASSURANCE THAT GUYANA WILL NOT ASSIST CUBAN ACTIONS IN AFRICA BY PROVIDING REFUELING FACILITIES.

2. SUGGESTED TALKING POINTS FOLLOW:

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-- WE HAVE REPORTS THAT AS MANY AS SEVERAL HUNDRED GDF

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TROOPS ARE BEING SENT TO CUBA FOR MILITARY TRAINING.

-- IF THESE REPORTS ARE TRUE, WE FEAR THE MOVE COULD CAUSE ANXIETY AND MISUNDERSTANDING THROUGHOUT THE

HEMISPHERE. RECENT CUBAN ADVENTURES IN AFRICA AND PAST CUBAN THRUSTS WITHIN THE HEMISPHERE GIVE THE OAS NATIONS GOOD CAUSE FOR CONCERN ABOUT SUCH CUBAN MILITARY CONNECTIONS.

-- WE HAVE ALSO HEARD THAT GUYANA WILL ULTIMATELY DEPLOY CUBAN-TRAINED GDF TROOPS TO MOZAMBIQUE TO ASSIST RHODESIAN GUERILLAS.

-- IF THIS IS THE INTENTION, WE BELIEVE THAT GUYANA SHOULD SERIOUSLY RECONSIDER BECOMING INVOLVED MILITARILY IN SOUTHERN AFRICA.

-- WE HAVE MADE KNOWN OUR STRONG OPPOSITION TO CUBAN INTERFERENCE IN AFRICA. WE ARE LIKEWISE STRONGLY OPPOSED TO ANY GUYANESE INTERVENTION.

-- WE HAVE TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION YOUR VIEWS AND THOSE OF AMBASSADOR MANN IN WASHINGTON IN FORMULATING OUR POLICY TOWARD THE RHODESIAN SITUATION. IF YOU BECOME MILITARILY INVOLVED, OUR QUEST FOR A MODERATE SOLUTION WILL BE GREATLY COMPLICATED. KISSINGER

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